

REMARKS

A petition to extend the time for response by two (2) months was enclosed on April 23, 2007.

Claims 7–12 are currently pending and are amended herein in order to clarify the present invention as claimed. Specifically, the term "an electronic storage unit" in the preamble of each of claims 7-12 has been amended to read "a cooking appliance" and this amendment to each of claims 7 – 12 is proposed to clarify that each claim is directed to "a cooking appliance" having, among other features, "an electronic storage unit".

The Examiner has indicated that claims 7-12 fail to comply with the written description requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. The Examiner indicates that the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The Examiner asserts that in claim 7, for example, there is no support in the original disclosure for "different switch-on times", etc. as recited. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The present invention is based on a cooking appliance having at least one heating unit, by means of which a cooking area can be heated, and with at least one extractor fan, by which at least one parameter, depending on a selected cooking mode, can be regulated via a control unit to different parameter values (reference is made to page 1, line 30 to page 2, line 3 of the specification). Switch-on time, defined as an interval between the beginning of a cooking operation and the start of the extractor fan, is defined as a parameter value (along with switch-on duration, run-on time, fan speed and the like) (reference is made to page 2, lines 12-15 of the specification). While the Examiner asserts that "there is no support in the original disclosure for 'different switch-on times', etc. as recited", Applicant respectfully submits that the elements as recited are

adequately supported in the original specification and drawings. For example, with reference to page 5, lines 28-35 of the specification, a switch-on time t of the extractor fan 12 is defined as being "controlled by a control unit 13 depending on the selected cooking mode to *different switch-on time parameters t_1, t_2, t_3* " (*emphasis added*). Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the subject matter recited in the claims 7-12 was described in the specification so as to comply with the written description requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Entry of the claims as amended and removal of the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph rejections are earnestly solicited.

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